

# The Scuba Scoop

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50c

JUNE 2002

The Official Newsletter of the  
**Saginaw Underwater Explorers**  
<http://community.mlive.com/cc/sue>  
-Serving the Tri-Cities since 1958

**Club Meetings-**  
7:30pm on the 2d Tues  
of each month. Held at  
Sag. Twp. Fire Station #1  
on Shattuck Rd

**Officers-**  
**President:**  
Val Geldans 781 1552  
**Vice-President:**  
John Ruthig 781 1512  
**Secretary:**  
Mike Peterson 792 3664  
**Treasurer:**  
Terry Lisk 777 1956  
**Compressor Chair:**  
Don Cunningham 7994385  
**Board Member at Large:**  
Joe Jablonski 893 7970  
**Editor:**  
Don Storck 642 8436  
**Dive Coordinator/Ambassador:**  
Tom Fritz 771 3649

**Club Dues-**  
\$25 per year  
**This Meeting:**  
June 11  
**Next Meeting:**  
July 9

In This Issue...  
*Celebrity Member*  
*CHICORA*  
*July Club Picnic*  
*Dive News*  
*B.O.L.*  
*Calendar*  
*and selected short subjects*

## “Local Diver Comes Aboard”

-Is the title of an article in the “Lakeshore Guardian” featuring our own Ron Burkhard. Ron will be a regular contributor to the publication, writing about shipwrecks in the thumb area and his experiences diving them. Ron became a diver because of his interest in the wrecks, and has built up 20 years of experience. The article credits Ron with diving nearly every wreck from Harbor Beach to the tip of the thumb. The “Lakeshore Guardian” welcomes Ron as a regular writer, and we send our congratulations also. Nice going, Ron!

For the full story, go to

[www.lakeshoreguardian.com/\\_092001/diver.htm](http://www.lakeshoreguardian.com/_092001/diver.htm)



Captain Ron Burkhard; LakeGuardian Official Photo

## Club Picnic

It's time to make your plans to attend the great Brat Festival '02 aka the annual SUE club picnic. This years picnic will be held at Club Ruthig, located on Titabawasee Rd. west of the river. Except you can't get there by following Titabawasee Rd across the river; the Titabawasee bridge is out. Better instructions will be forthcoming, but plan on using either the Freeland Rd bridge, or the State Rd bridge. Date of the outing is July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

## Further West...

Divers in the Saugatuck area are exploring a newly found wreck, which may be the 'Chicora'. The exact location hasn't been given out yet, but the word is the ship is about 15 mi from shore. It is sitting upright at a depth of 260 ft. The hull is still intact, but the superstructure is missing; one diver describes the wreck as in amazing shape. The divers seem to be mostly out of Holland, and are members of the South West Michigan Underwater Preserve.

The Chicora was bound for St. Joseph from Milwaukee on Jan 21, 1895 and could not get in to the harbor due to ice. Witnesses claimed to see it; then it vanished with 24 souls on board. On another point of interest, four months after disappearing, a note sealed in a jar turned up. It was written in pencil, saying "Chicora engines broke. Drifted into trough of sea. We have lost all hope. She has gone to pieces. Goodby. McLure, Engineer"

(Possibly this group has a website with more info?)

## Local Dive News

Congratulations to Deanna Peterson; who just finished her open-water certification in a cold Bear Lake. (Deanna; did you qualify for ice diving too?) Mike Peterson also dove the lake, reporting 51 deg with a vis of 10 ft. There are two small boats sunk on purpose in 30-40 ft, about 100 yds off shore. As Mike was exploring more, he checked his computer and found himself suddenly at 210 ft. Thinking he had either fallen into a hole and was getting narced or the computer might be off, he started watching the display. Little by little, the numbers started to disappear. Then he saw a bubble float across!

This was the first time he had used this computer, and it had flooded... Sounds like Deanna had the best dive in Bear Lake.

There was also some scuttlebutt about a dive in the St. Clair River, but no details on it.

John Ruthig did some diving in Florida this last month; he came up with some lobsters (see next page).

## VIP Annually

With the updated recommendation by our two recently certified VIP inspectors, the SUE Board has decided to adopt a yearly VIP standard. This does make us consistent with the rest of the diving community, whereas no outside station would fill your tank with a VIP beyond 1 year. Furthermore, it should decrease our liability for any possible accidents.

## Outside Dive News

### Miksaoui Nelson?

By now you no doubt have heard the latest threat; the possibility that the terrorists have some plans to train as scuba divers to implement their evil. To that end, if you hear of anyone trying to learn how to swim underwater while not interested in how to enter or exit, please contact your editor immediately.

**Want wet?** Leo Dupuis has plans for a dive on the Wexford and Bayfield; August 10-11. If you're interested, give Leo a call at 810 727 7278, or write him at [lduptmuis3@visteon.com](mailto:lduptmuis3@visteon.com)

John Ruthig and Todd Peckham in the Keys-



## 02 EVENT CALENDAR

June	11 TBD	Club Meeting Thumb Dive
July	9	Club Picnic;&Meeting
August	10 13	Wexford Club Meeting
September	10	Club Meeting
October	8 TBD	Club Meeting Pumpkin Dive
November	12	Club Meeting
December	10 TBD	Club Meeting Christmas Party

(Plenty of room for more here- suggestions welcomed)



John R showing the crabs he caught...er, lobsters!

## Olympus News

The Olympus Dive Center of NC recently sent out its spring newsletter; you can visit there (and subscribe) by going to

[www.olympusdiving.com/guest](http://www.olympusdiving.com/guest).

## Scuba Scoop

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The SCOOP is trying to increase delivery by e-mail. Note you do not have to be a member to receive this. For a free e-subscription; just send e-mail to

[dstorck@hotmail.com](mailto:dstorck@hotmail.com) with the word 'subscribe' in the subject. Sign on your friends!

## For Sale

Mike Kowalski is taking orders for club T-shirts; maybe other lines. Check at 8922028

Val Geidans has a new 5mm one piece wetsuit. OCEANreef therm-x suit XL; retails at \$325. For the right caller, \$165! Talk to him for details at 7927077 or 7811552

Tim Cambell (893 1568) has a commercial dry suit (off shore) with 2 sets of insulation (light/heavy), hood, boots, finger gloves, SAS regulators with Tekna Computek dive computer, Atpac B.C., fins, 2 tanks- 72s, twin tank bands, yoke, and misc items.  
Excellent condition. All for \$2000.

Dan Palmer (689 5197) has a Nikonos V, 2 lenses, close-up framers, 2 strobes & more; \$1350 or best! Blue plastic coated weights; \$.50/lb. 25lb Pro shot belt; \$20. Small dry suit w/ woolies; \$75. Large dry suit w/ woolies; \$250.

For local sales convenience, remember  
**DIVERS BERTH 2356 Delta Rd.**  
**667 8700** [www.diversberth.com](http://www.diversberth.com)

## Legal Notice:

Be advised a proposal is being considered to change the constitution to read- new members will pay a \$25 initiation fee to cover their dues upon joining; then they will fall under the regular membership dues stated previously.

## Wanted

Ron Burkhard is looking for a 40 cu ft Pony Tank.  
Contact him at 989 428 5177  
or e/m [rapturejmb@hotmail.com](mailto:rapturejmb@hotmail.com)

Mike Peterson is looking for some used tanks. Call Mike at 792 3664 (new number)

Carol Arndt of National Bottling Co. is looking for a part-time handyman. 792 3095

ANY NEW ITEMS? ANY ITEMS THAT CAN BE DELETED?

## Policy and Disclaimer:

Items listed in For Sale/Wanted will continue to be listed for one year unless the "Scoop" is notified otherwise. Saginaw Underwater Explorers and "The Scuba Scoop" are not responsible for anything posted here.

**Compressor Concerns? Air Cards?**  
C/C Don Cunningham anytime at 799 4385